



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/384,158	08/27/1999	MICHAEL S. BORELLA	99.226	7444

20306 7590 04/29/2003

MCDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF
300 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE
SUITE 3200
CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

NOBAHAR, ABDULHAKIM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2132

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2003

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

2

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/384,158

Applicant(s)

BORELLA ET AL.

Examiner

Abdulahkim Nobahar

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5, 6, 8
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Double Patenting***

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-7, 10-14, and 19-20 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-39 of copending Application No. 09/270967. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims of this application are broader than the claims 1-39 of copending application. These claims do not expressly specify that the security values and the ports are allocated to the devices on the local network by the router on the local network.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Art Unit: 2132

Claims 1-3, 6, 10-12 and 19 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-42 of U.S. Patent No. 6,353,614. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims of this application are broader than the claims 1-39 of copending application. These claims do not expressly specify that each device on the local network requests from the router on the local network through the Port Allocation Port, a unique port to identify that device to the router.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed June 03, 2002, fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein does not contain the referenced document numbered 65, thus it has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuruoka (6,101,189) in view of Ylonen et al. (6,438,612 B1) (hereinafter Ylonen).

Referring to claims 1-20, Tsuruoka teaches:

"A method for distributed network address translation". See abstract and col. 3, lines 37-44.

"Providing a first network device and a second network device on a first network and a third network device on a second network external to the first network". See Fig. 1.

"Storing the external address in a table on the second network". See col. 7, lines 11-29 and col. 9, lines 1-15 where the conversion table is the (routing) table.

"Sending a packet having an external address from the third network device to the first network device". See Fig. 5B and col. Col. 7, lines 29-44.

"A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a central processing unit to execute the above-mentioned method". See col.6, lines 54-63 and Fig. 3.

"The second network device is a distributed network address translation router". See col. 1, lines 27-37 and col. 4, lines 55-67.

"Intercepting the with the second network device". See col. 2, lines 60-67, col. 3, lines 40-45 and col. 5, lines 37-44.

Art Unit: 2132

“Determining whether the external address of the packet has been specified by the first network device as being valid;

Sending the packet from the second network device to the first network device if the external address of the packet has been specified by the first network device is valid; and

Discarding the packet if the external address of the packet has not been specified by the first network device as being valid”. See Figs. 5B, 5C, Fig. 8, S23 and col. 9, line 51-col. 10, line 40.

However, Tsuruoka does not teach the use of a security value to establish a security association between a device on the local network and a device on the external network. Ylonen teaches a secure tunneling method for establishing a virtual secure communication tunnel between two devices located on two different networks. In his method, Ylonen teaches the use of a security value and the IPSEC related protocols for establishing a security association between two transmitting and receiving devices located on two different networks and checking the authenticity of the transmitting packets by inspecting the security value (abstract, col. 3, line 62-col. 4, line 58, col. 5, line 54-col. 6, line 14, col. 8, lines 10-42 and Fig. 5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of a security value in conjunction with IPSEC protocols stack as taught in Ylonen with the method of Tsuruoka to establish security association between two communicating devices located on two different network, because it would provide for cryptographic

Art Unit: 2132

authentication and confidentiality of traffic between two communicating network nodes (col. 2, lines 60-67).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 703-305-8074. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 703-305-1830. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Abdulhakim Nobahar
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

a.n.

April 24, 2003

Gilberto Barron

GILBERTO BARRON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100